PANEL ON SCIENCE TO EXPAND SCOPE

House Group Hopes to Keep Eye on All U.S. Programs

> By JOHN W. FINNEY Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14-The House Committee on Science and Astronautics is now being rebuilt into the Congressional observation post on the American scientific scene.

The reorganization and redirection of the House's newest legislative committee may fill what has been regarded by many in Congress, the Executive branch and the scientific community as the most serious present gap in the Government's organization for directing an expanding scientifictechnological effort.

Since the first Soviet satellite more than four years ago, the Executive branch has been reorganized so that the White House for the first time can keep a comprehensive eye on the multitudinous scientific proton of the Government.

The work is the committee of the House Select Space to of the House Select Space committee. This committee the committee of the House Select Space to of the House Select Space committee.

Within Congress, however, the scientific programs have tended to become compartment-alized among several committee. National Space and Aeronautics Administration and the House alized among several commit-tees. One result has been that in voting appropriations Congress-men have had no over-all perspective of the nation's scientific needs and directions.

and Astronautics, Representative George P. Miller believes obtaining a periodic over-all look at the state of American ing it is to provide such a comprehensive survey of the scien-

interview that he will turn more and more to consideration of dictions. broader scientific problems and "This other areas of scientific research.



Associated Press REORGANIZES GROUP: Representative George P. Miller, California Democrat, the chairman the House Committee on

committee.

Plan Is Outlined

spective of the nation's scientific needs and directions.

Science to Be Stressed

As he takes over the chairmanship of the three-year-old noted that "Congress, unlike House Committee on Science the Executive branch, has here-

"The President has his Scitific scene for Congress. The ence Advisory Committee and the Gealfornia Democrat became chairman of the committee with the death last September of Reptesentative Overton Brooks, Democrat of Louisiana.

"The President has his Science Advisory Committee and Technology to help him in this respect. Congress has had no corresponding body, and the result has often been difficultation. Democrat of Louisiana.

Until now the committee has tended to concentrate on the astronautics part of its title.

Mr. Miller made clear in an introduction committee the committee that of the varying committee juris-

"This seems to be a problem which the Committee on Science and Astronautics could do

ciplines and in the educational needs and demands relative to scientists and technicians and be in a position to advise Congress concerning the problems, needs, demands, ramifications and solutions to scientific scientific matters.' In this manner, the plan

States stands in general science, in each of its major science dis-

points out, the committee could become the "legislative coun-terpart" to the Federal Council on Science and Technology. This White House committee was set up in the Eisenhower Administration to coordinate scientific policy and programs. The council is headed by the President's science adviser, Dr. Jerome B. Wiesner. It is composed of representatives from all agencies and departments conducting major research programs.

Advisers Would Testify

The committee, the plan said, could also "provide that closer relationship between Congress and Administration [scientific] policy-makers which the times appear to warrant." For example, the plan suggests that among the witnesses at the status-of-science hearings should be top Government sci-entific officials, such as the President's science adviser and the director of the National Science Foundation, as well as leading scientists in each of the major scientific disciplines.

Some members of the President's Science Advisory Committee believe that the Congressional committee's plan could have significant repercussions on scientific planning and man-agement within the Executive

branch.